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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## **STREET GANGSTER DISCIPLES LEADER SENTENCED TO 30 YEARS FOR CRACK CONSPIRACY**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that CURTIS GRAVES, also known as "DIRTY CURT", 30, of Indianapolis, Indiana, was sentenced to 30 years imprisonment today by U.S. District Judge David F. Hamilton following his conviction at trial on February 3, 2004, for two counts of Distribution of 50 Grams Or More Of Cocaine Base ("Crack").

GRAVES, the leader of the 24th Street Gangster Disciples street gang, was convicted on charges that arose out of joint investigation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Indianapolis Police Department's Safe Streets Task Force.

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According to the evidence at trial and at the sentencing hearing, in the beginning of 2002, the FBI and the Safe Streets Task Force initiated an investigation into a violent drug trafficking criminal street gang, based in Indianapolis, named the 24th Street Gangster Disciples. The investigation revealed that the 24th Street Gangster Disciples were distributing large amounts of crack cocaine in the Indianapolis area and were responsible for several homicides.

During March and April of 2002, law enforcement agents were able to purchase over 180 grams of crack cocaine from GRAVES.

Judge Hamilton found GRAVES to be a career offender based on his two previous convictions for Aggravated Battery in Marion County.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Barry D. Glickman, who prosecuted the case for the government, Judge Hamilton also imposed a period of supervised release of five years after GRAVES' imprisonment.

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